

Colonial Fox receives marquee letters from another historic theater

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PITTSBURG, KANSAS -

A gift from one historic theatre to another.

Restoration continues at the Colonial Fox Theatre in Pittsburg and a gift from another historic theater helps this cause.

A donation of marquee letters means there is one less thing on their to-do list.

"1920 was the grand opening and it's been a cultural icon in the downtown Pittsburg since that time," says Vonnie Corsini, the Executive Director of the Colonial Fox Theatre. "The Colonial has had the Fox marquee on it since 1960, and over time, those letters break. In the winter time they get bitter and if you happen to drop them, they're gone."

The donated letters were once used on the Dupage Theatre in Illinois, which was demolished in 2007.

Friends of the DuPage Theatre, Paul and Lillian Mundt, say they are excited to see a part of their theatre put to good use at the Colonial.

"The letters are exactly the same," they say. "We could do something with our letters and keep a little bit of our blood, you know nice red letters, a little bit of blood of the DuPage Theater to revive, revitalize, give a transfusion to the Colonial Fox. Especially since we live so far away we're not able to volunteer on all your work days, and your clean up days. It's just one little aspect that we can help out with."

Paul and Lillian drove the letters from Illinois and Corsini didn't waste any time replacing some of the old ones.

Some say entertainment is not the same and movie theaters don't offer the same experience as historical ones. Friends of the Colonial Theater feel it's important to preserve history so that future generations can enjoy a part of the past.

The Mundts hope their passion for iconic landmarks will help the community appreciate and contribute to the restoration of another historic theatre.







